

SITUATION REPORT NO. 5
INCIDENT NO. 2004-035
DATE: September 7, 2004 Time 3:00 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Wildland Fires – Drought conditions in areas of high fuel content have led to fires with extreme fire behavior ignited by various sources, including weather activity, agricultural and industrial operations, recreation and other human activity.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: Fires reported to the State Operations Center (SOC) include:

Slope County: The N.D. Forest Service Fire Management Coordinator reported firefighters achieved 100 percent containment of the 3,820-acre Deep Creek Fire on 9/05/04. Mop up efforts are continuing. Rain significantly dampened fire behavior on 9/3/04. A recovery team from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) will be assessing the burned areas to determine whether efforts will be needed for rehabilitation. USFS officials will also be determining the extent of damage to the ponderosa pine forest. Slope County personnel will be collecting information on the fencing lost to fire.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: In addition to previous reports, the Bureau of Land Management provided firefighting resources to the Deep Creek Fire.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Interagency crews assigned to the Deep Creek Fire worked throughout the weekend to secure control lines and work within the perimeter of the fire to identify and extinguish hot spots. Crews worked from the control line inward, and were able to mop up five or six chains (a chain is 66 feet). Crews found hot spots mainly in heavy fuels.

A night shift maintained fire perimeter stability. Because mop up efforts were successful, the Type III Incident Management Team transitioned to a Type IV team on 9/6/04. Seven engines were released as well on 9/06/04.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None requested at this time.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: The Montana Department of Natural Resources provided firefighting assistance for the Deep Creek Fire.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports are posted on the Division's Internet home page at <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Guidelines for outdoor activity restrictions are contained on the internet in the North Dakota Rural Fire Danger Index Guide at <http://www.state.nd.us/dem/info/firedanger.html>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director